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Newly Issued Stamps.

ABOLISHING THE FRANKLING PRIVILEGE.

THE NEW POSTAGE STAMPS TO BE USED BY THE GOVERNMENT
DEPARTMENT—APPROPRIATIONS OF CONGRESS—THE AUTHORI-
TIES IN A PLEASANT MOOD—POSTAL CARDS.

In the matter of postage stamps, the new style of which comes into use in the several government departments after the 1st of July, variety and appropriateness of design combine to render them worthy more than a passing word. In the first place they will be entirely different from those in general use by the public. The one cent stamp has the profile bust of Franklin, taken from Rubricht, in imperial blue. Two cents, Jackson; profile bust after Powers; color, velvet-brown. Three cents, Washington; profile bust after Houdon; color, green. Six cents, Lincoln; after York, in cochineal red. Seven cents, Stanton; profile bust from photograph, color, English vermillion. Ten cents,

Jefferson ; profile bust after Powers' statue, chocolate color. Twelve cents, Clay ; profile Bust after Hart ; purple. Fifteen cents, Webster profile bust after Clevenger ; color, orange. Twenty-four cents, Scott, profile bust after Coffee ; color pure purple. Thirty cents, Hamilton ; profile bust after Cerrachi ; color, black. Ninety cents, Commodore O. H. Perry ; profile bust after Wolcott's statue ; color, carmine.

These same medalions are to be used on the stamps for the departments, but each one to be in different color and design, with the exception of the profile. That for the War Department has beneath the medalion in the lowest corners a shield, and in the upper corners the letters "U. S." with "War Department" written across the top, and the denomination across the bottom of the stamp.

The Navy Department has a cable extending around the stamp outside of the medalion, with "Navy Department" and two stars in the upper corners, the denominations written across the bottom, and the letters "U. S." in the lower corners.

The Treasury stamp has nothing particularly emblematical. The sides around the medalion are filled with folds of drapery and heavy tassels depending. "Treasury" is written across the top, the denomination across the bottom, and the letters "U. S." in the corner, under the word "Treasury."

Stamps for the White House have "Executive" written across the top in large letters, and "U. S." in the upper corners, plain sides and denomination across the bottom.

The Interior stamps are the handsomest of the lot. The name of the Department is written across the top, extending from side to side, with stars in the upper corners, and pillars on the sides, running from the top and terminating with the letters "U. S." in large type set in relief.

The State Department stamp is very plain. The name of the Department is printed across the top, plain sides, with large letters "U. S." at the lower corners, and denominations across the bottom.

The Department of Justice has a plain and severe looking stamp, with plain sides and corners, "Department of Justice" written across the top, and the letters "U. S." in large type set in stars at the lower sides.

The Post Office Department Stamp, instead of the medalion, will have the denomination in large figures and full relief in white on a black ground. The border of this stamp is of excellent workmanship, and is composed of a delicate wreath of leaves entwined around the medalion ; the letters "U. S." are in the lower corners, and two balls in upper corners. The reason for making the post office stamp different from

the others is that the Post Office Department has to distribute these stamps to thirty thousand postmasters throughout the country, for official use, and it will occasion less confusion and less opportunity for careless, ignorant and dishonest postmasters to disarrange the system by having a distinct stamp for their own use. Each department has a different color, so that there will be no occasion for the correspondence to get mixed. The color for the War Department is carmine; the Navy blue; the Interior, vermillion; Post Office, black; Agricultural, straw color; Department of Justice, royal purple; Executive, chocolate. Congress appropriated for the Executive Department postage \$600; Department of State, \$83,000; Post Office Department, \$800,000; Treasury, \$504,000; War, \$153,000; Navy, \$38,000; Interior Department, \$330,000; Agricultural Department, \$52,000; Department of Justice, \$15,000.

The requisitions of the different departments for the first quarter are beginning to come into the Post Office. The Treasury Department for the first quarter alone wants 200,000, the State Department 20,000, the War Department \$30,000. The Signal Service, a bureau of the War Department, makes requisition, in addition to stamps, for 250,000 one cent wrappers for one month alone. This is for the weather reports which are sent out every day all over the country. General Meyer's requisition for postage on what is termed the farmer reports, alone for the year was \$65,000. The departments will make requisitions on the post office for stamps; the Post Office will send orders to the Bank Note Company, and they will deliver directly to the departments.

The Post Office Department is in a pleasant mood over the abolition of the franking privilege, and revels in anticipations of its increased revenue, although it is not clear where the government will have the \$2,543,327 72 which the Postmaster General gave as the amount that was expended on account of its use, and which would be saved by the abolition of the privilege, since Congress appropriated nearly \$2000000 for postage, and the contracts for carrying the mails are not to be made a dollar less than before the change.

The new postal cards will also be ready for use at the same time the new stamps are out. These cards are about six inches long and three or four inches wide. One side is blank, for the message to be written upon; the other is neatly ornamented with a scroll bearing "United States," with a flourish, and "One cent postage," stamped in the corner, the same as on stamped envelopes.—[*Telegram.*]

Straits Settlements.—We have just received from a correspondent, a few of the new 30 cent stamps; color, claret.

**The Stamped Envelopes, Sheets and Wrappers of the
United States.**

(Continued from page 63.)

III.—ANALYTICAL HISTORY OF ISSUES.—5TH ISSUE.

A. DATE OF EMISSION.—VALUES.

The envelopes of this issue appeared at two periods, 1865 and 1866. To the first belong the 3 cents, brown, and 6 cents, mauve; to the second, 9c. lemon and orange, 12c. stone and claret, 18c. vermillion, 24c. blue, 30c. green, 40c. rose.

I much regret the impossibility of obtaining the day and month each value saw "light;" but my efforts in this direction have failed.

b DESIGN.—In order to avoid repetition, the description of the heading under notice may be easily disposed of.

The 3 and 6 cent values are identical with their *confreres* of the last emission, and the 9, 12, 18, 24, 30 and 40c. copies, conform to the 10c. of the third issue.

C. MINUTE EXAMINATION OF DIES AND THEIR VARIETIES.

There are no varieties to mention.

D. COLORS AND TINTS OF REVERSED IMPRESSION.

3 cents. The normal color of this value—brown, may be found, when lightly impressed, of a dull stone tint, growing gradually darker, culminating in a rich, deep sepia.

6 cents. Light reddish mauve, V to dark violet, thus introducing many minute intermediate tints.

9 cents. Lemon V to yellow, orange.

The shade of paper has much to do with the several hues of the lemon V to yellow. The orange is bright and distinct.

12 cents. The earlier impressions were of a light stone shade V to dark olive brown; the latter, a claret hue, were common to envelopes bearing "Wells, Fargo & Co.'s" frank.

24 cents. Dull blue V to intense French blue.

30 " yellow-green V to dark emerald.

40 " rose V.

E. SPECIFIC APPLICATION OF KNIVES AND SIZES.

Three knives, as appended, are introduced to our study:

New, plain letter, size $3\frac{1}{2} \times 5\frac{1}{2}$ knife G.

" " official, " $3\frac{1}{2} \times 8\frac{1}{2}$ " J.

" " " " $4\frac{1}{2} \times 9\frac{1}{2}$ " "

" " " " $3\frac{1}{2} \times 8\frac{1}{2}$ " K.

F. GENERAL DETAILS OF PAPER.

Qualities and shades.

White, straw-buff and reddish-buff, extremely thin paper for the 3c. value, vergeured. Blueish-white, straw V to reddish-buff; heavy paper for the 6 cents; verg. app. Straw-buff V to red-brown for the 9 cents. Superior crisp salmon for the claret 12c., yellow-buff for the stone; and for the 18, 24, 30 and 40c., a heavy, rough, reddish-brown.

Same watermark of the department.

IV. REFERENCE LIST OF ISSUE.--5TH ISSUE.

No.	Value.	Color and Tint.	Knife.	Size.	Paper.
196	3c.	dull stone.	K.	3 $\frac{7}{8}$ x8 $\frac{7}{8}$	pure white, thin, verg.
197	"	brown V	"	"	white, ft. p.
198	"	deep sepia	"	"	" " "
199	"	stone	"	"	straw-buff, "
200	"	d. velvet brown	"	"	" " "
201	"	red-brown	"	"	reddish-buff "
202	6c.	l. reddish-mauve G.	3 $\frac{1}{2}$ x5 $\frac{1}{2}$		white, ft. p., crisp and thick.
203	"	dark mauve	"	"	bluish-white "
204	"	bright violet	"	"	" " "
205	"	rich purple	"	"	straw-buff "
206	"	reddish-violet,	"	"	" " "
207	"	intense violet	"	"	" V "
208	9c.	dull lemon	J.	3 $\frac{7}{8}$ x8 $\frac{7}{8}$	reddish-buff, rough "
209	"	lemon	"	"	smooth, "
210	"	bt. lemon V	"	"	V "
211	"	yellow	"	"	crisp, "
212	"	bt. yellow V to	"	"	" "
213	"	dark yellow	"	"	V "
214	"	orange	"	"	straw-buff, " verg.
215	"	bright orange	"	"	" "
216	"	intense orange	"	"	" "
217	12c.	dull stone	"	"	yellow-buff "
218	"	brown sepia	"	"	thick.
219	"	olive-brown	"	"	straw-buff "
220	"	dull claret	"	"	" V "
221	"	bright "	"	"	salmon, crisp, verg.
222	18c.	vermilion	"	4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x9 $\frac{7}{8}$	bt. salmon "
223	"	intense vermil.	"	"	reddish-brown, rough, thi k
224	24c.	lt. blue	"	"	" "
225	"	dull blue	"	"	crisp, "
226	"	d. French blue	"	"	rough, "

227	30c.	yellow-green	J.	$4\frac{1}{2} \times 9\frac{1}{2}$	reddish-brown, rough, thick
228	"	bt. green	"	"	" crisp,
229	"	dk. emerald	"	"	" "
230	40c.	rose V.	"	"	" "
231	"	bt. rose	"	"	" "

GENERAL CONCLUDING REMARKS.

It will have been remarked that the 3 and 6 cent knives, have been reversed; the former being found for the first time on the "official size."

The tints of the impressions common to this emission, are almost indescribable; and my final list contains scarcely a half of the specimens to be met with.

"Special-Request" Envelopes in all their *varieties* are found in profusion.

To be continued.

A Letter Carrier's Review.

**JAMES WATSON'S ACCOUNT OF THE CITY POST-OFFICE.
WHAT ONCE FILLED IN A COFFEE-HOUSE NOW MEASURED BY TUNS—EPISODES OF TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY YEARS.**

The following is a summary of an interesting lecture on the "New York Post-Office from 1623 to 1873," recently delivered at Steinway Hall by James Watson, himself a letter-carrier:

In 1623, nine years after the building of the first fort on the southern extremity of Manhattan Island, the primitive New York Post-Office came into being. Captains of vessels bringing letters from the old country began to deposit them in a coffee-house where there were displayed in a rack. The coffee-house of those days was the place where the merchants and burghers met to gossip and exchange the news of the day. The first letter carriers were the good-natured hangers-on of the place who would volunteer to take letters to those whose visits to the coffee house were rare. New Amsterdam in 1660 was by no means a large town; it consisted of straggling groups of one-story houses, with high peaked roofs, and gable ends fronting the street, which extended from the Battery to Wall street. The town windmill stood on the Battery. The Government House was in Water street, near Whitehall street. A creek ran through Broad street, up which market boats, rowed by stout Dutchwomen, brought provisions and the mails from Bergen, Gowanus, and Brooklyn. The city wall—where Wall street, now is—was a row of palisades, with embankments nine feet high, and broad enough on the top for a footpath. It was favorite promenade for the residents of that day.

To be continued.

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